

Ripped from the ROUNDUP

Ripped straight from the pages of old Space News Roundups, here's what happened at JSC on this date:

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With Ed White's first steps into space from the Gemini IV spacecraft, United States Extravehicular Activity got its start on an ambitious program of working in a new environment which will lead to man's first step on the moon.

To exist in the space environment, the two necessary ingredients for survival, air and pressure, must be taken along. In addition, the man must be protected from extreme temperatures and micrometeoroid punctures. In Gemini extravehicular equipment all of these safeguards are integrated.

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The words "Touchdown! We have touchdown!" brought cheers of relief and excitement from members of the Viking Flight Team at 7:12 a.m. CDT, Tuesday, July 20. A long night of anxious anticipation had been rewarded with the successful landing of Viking 1 on Mars, and the degree of success was acknowledged by the exclamation "unbelievable" during the virtually perfect entry and landing sequence.

The reconstruction of the pictures on television monitors at the Viking Control Center was punctuated by cheers of congratulations among the participants, many of whom had been involved on the program for up to 15 years, and by a congratulatory telephone call from President Ford.

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Officials at the NASA Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center Monday will honor a longtime supporter of the space program when they dedicate the Olin E. "Tiger" Teague Visitor Center.

The late U.S. Congressman Teague served from 1959-1978 on the House Committee on Science and Astronautics, the last five years as chairman. Before he became chairman of the committee, he headed the subcommittee on manned space flight. He was known as one of the most articulate supporters of the space program.

JSC's Bring Our Children to Work Day a success

By Eric Raub

The pitter-patter of little feet was heard all over JSC June 15 as the center hosted hundreds of youngsters for Bring Our Children to Work Day. The official observance, held at the Gilruth Center, provided two shows for the children, ranging in age from 9 to 15.

They went on a virtual tour of the International Space Station (ISS) in the Alamo Ballroom with the help of the "Virtual Astronaut" Web site.



NASA JSC 2001e19239 photo by David DeHoyos
NASA staff photographer David DeHoyos brought his daughter Leana to JSC on June 15 to participate in the Bring Our Children to Work Day event. Here Leana tries on an EVA glove.

Stacey Morrison, Cathy Gardner, and Steve Taylor from the Program Integration Office of the Space and Life Sciences Directorate led the children through the insides of the astronauts, as well as the insides of the ISS, with games like Neurosensory Jeopardy, Movement Memory and Immune Invaders.

In the gym the children were introduced to robots, gadgets and other projects from Chris Culbert and Jennifer Rochlis of the Automation, Robotics and Simulation Division. After a short

discussion on what defines a "robot," the children saw examples, such as the Sojourner rover and the futuristic Rotating Bladder Robot (ROBLR).

They also saw a video about Robonaut, the advanced robot that resembles a human without legs. At the front of the gym robotic hand devices and a space-suit glove drew a crowd before and after

the presentation.

The children received NASA bags with items provided by JSC, as well as from Cimarron, United Space Alliance, Boeing, Lockheed Martin and Spacehab. A special \$1.95 double corn dog and fries lunch awaited those children who stayed on-site for lunch at either the Bldg. 3 or 11 cafeterias.

Bring Our Children to Work Day at JSC is about imparting a sense of the range of jobs at JSC and, hopefully, a little wonder and curiosity. Those behind the event hope that the children left with more than a stomach full of corn dogs and a goodie bag.

"With Bring Our Children to Work Day we always strive to portray the diversity of the work and workforce of JSC," said organizer Jessie Hendrick of the Equal Opportunity Programs Office.

"It's important to show the kids all of the different kinds of things that are going on, as well as the different kinds of people doing them, so that they'll start to think nothing is beyond their reach."

For more information on the "Virtual Astronaut" Web site visit:
<http://virtualastronaut.jsc.nasa.gov>

Mark your calendars!

Back Safety Class, July 24

Computer Ergonomics Class, July 25

9:30-11:30, Building 30 auditorium

Call x36726 for information or to register

JSC celebrates Juneteenth



NASA JSC 2001-01841 photo by David DeHoyos

JSC staffers were treated to a special Juneteenth program on June 19, which was presented by the Equal Opportunity Programs Office. Performing at the event was J. Paul Jr. & the Zydeco Nu Breedz, pictured above. Also performing was Charles McGruder Jr. with his sisters Kim Bell and Tamara McGruder.

NASA JSC 2001-01843 photo by David DeHoyos

Paranormal investigator to speak at JSC

James Randi, critical investigator of paranormal and pseudoscientific claims, will give a lecture July 23 at 2 p.m. in the Teague Auditorium.

Randi is best known as an investigator of paranormal and pseudoscientific claims. He has pursued psychics who claim to bend spoons with their minds, exposed faith healers and others who claim to have supernatural powers or abilities.

He is a regularly requested speaker,

having lectured or performed at such places as the White House, Cornell University, Harvard University, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Oxford University, Princeton University and Yale University. He has been a speaker at such organizations as the Exxon Research Club, General Electric, Los Alamos National Laboratory, Mensa, the National Geographic Society, the National Science Foundation and The Smithsonian Institution.

In the lecture entitled, "Search for the Chimera, An Overview of How Science has Pursued Magic and Miracles in the 20th Century and Into the 21st Century," Randi exposes some popularly accepted "fakery."

At the event Randi will make a presentation to the latest James Randi Educational Foundation scholarship winner, Jordan Good Weasel. Jordan, 14, is in the eighth grade at the Little Wound Middle School in Kyle, S.D. ■

ROUNDUP
Frosch, Yardley cover
new space technology
in STS development